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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/759,619	01/12/2001	Keith Schwols	10990068-1	2399

7590 12/29/2003

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EXAMINER	
HAMILTON, MONPLAISIR G	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2172	16

DATE MAILED: 12/29/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/759,619	SCHWOLS, KEITH	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Monplaisir G Hamilton	2172	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *27 October 2003*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,3,4 and 6-8* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1, 3-4 and 6-8* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/27/03 has been entered.

Claims 1, 3-4 and 6-8 remain for examination.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to Claims 1, 3-4 and 6-8 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 3, 4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable US 5638509, issued to Dunphy, herein referred to as Dunphy and US 6370,545, issued to Shaath et al, herein referred to as Shaath as applied to Claim 1 above, in view of Basic Software Algorithms by Samsung Electronics, herein referred to as Samsung further in view of *How OLE and COM solve the problems of component software design* by Brockschmidt, Kraig, herein referred to as Kraig

Referring to Claims 1 and 4:

Dunphy discloses a method for protecting, tracking, and retrieving data on a computer system, said method comprising the steps of (col 1, lines 45-48; col 2, lines 40-45; col 5, lines 5-9): connecting a database to an existing operating system and to existing file management software on said computer system (Fig 1; col 6, lines 5-9; col 2, lines 40-45; col 3, lines 35-38); selecting at least one file to be protected from a primary storage device in said computer system (col 3, lines 21-24); copying said at least one file from said primary storage device to a secondary storage device in said computer system by activating said existing file management software to perform said copying (col 2, lines 40-45; col 5, lines 30-44); creating at least one

database record when copying said at least one file from said primary storage device to said secondary storage device, wherein said at least one database record contains tracking information about said at least one file and about said copying (col 4, lines 25-30, 40-46); storing said at least one database record in said database (col 2, lines 1-5); and displaying said at least one database record, through a user interface for said existing file management software on a screen display in a graphics display device of said computer system (Fig 4; col 8, lines 49-55), wherein said at least one database record is displayed graphically as a virtual file representing said at least one file. (col 8, lines 54-55).

Dunphy does not explicitly disclose said at least one removable storage medium has a unique identifier, (c1) creating a globally unique identifier (GUID), wherein said GUID comprises 128 binary bits created from a current time and date from said computer system and a unique machine identifier copied from an electronic circuit of said computer system c2) converting said GUID into a character string., and(c3) assigning said character string as said unique identifier.

Shaath discloses allocating a unique and fixed identifier in the form of a drive name to removable media. Shaath further discloses (c1) creating a globally unique identifier (GUID) (col 5, lines 3-5), (c3) assigning said character string as said unique name for said removable storage medium (col 5, line 4).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Dunphy to provide the removable storage media with unique identifiers. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would provide a non-volatile path to the stored information (Shaath: col 5, lines 3-6).

Dunphy in view Shaath do not explicitly disclose "c1) creating a globally unique identifier (GUID), wherein said GUID comprises 128 binary bits created from a current time and date from said computer system and a unique machine identifier copied from an electronic circuit of said computer system (c2) converting said GIUD into a character string;"

Samsung discloses a method for converting hexadecimal to (ASCII) a character string (Section 16, page 19).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Dunphy and Shaath to convert the unique identifier from hexadecimal to a character string. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would provide a nonvolatile name that is easily understood for the removable storage (col 5, lines 2-4).

Dunphy and Shaath in view of Samsung do not explicitly disclose "c1) creating a globally unique identifier (GUID), wherein said GUID comprises 128 binary bits created from a current time and date from said computer system and a unique machine identifier copied from an electronic circuit of said computer system."

Kraig discloses a well known algorithm that creates a globally UUID, said GUID comprises 128 binary bits created from a current time and date from said computer system and a unique machine identifier copied from an electronic circuit of said computer system (pg 14, lines 55-65; pg. 15, lines 1-5).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Dunphy and Shaath in view of Samsung such that the GUID is 128 binary bits created from a current time and date from said computer system and a

unique machine identifier copied from an electronic circuit of said computer system. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would allow the system to create a unique id for the device (Kraig-pg 14, lines 50-60).

Referring to Claims 3 and 6:

Dunphy, Shaath and Samsung in view of Kraig disclose the limitations as discussed in Claims 1 and 4 above. Samsung further discloses converting each hexadecimal digit of said GUID into a single character of said character string (Section 16-19).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to further modify the teachings of Dunphy, Shaath and Samsung in view of Kraig such that the system converts the hexadecimal digits to a character string. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would provide a character string identifier that a human user can understand.

4. Claims 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 6370,545, issued to Shaath et al, herein referred to as Shaath further in view of Basic Software Algorithms by Samsung Electronics, herein referred to as Samsung further in view of *How OLE and COM solve the problems of component software design* by Brockschmidt, Kraig, herein referred to as Kraig.

Referring to Claim 7:

Shaath discloses a computer system method for creating a unique identifier for a removable storage medium (col 3, lines 55-60) comprising the steps of: (a) creating a globally unique identifier (GUID) (col 5, lines 3-5) (c) assigning said character string as said unique name for said removable storage medium (col 5, line 4)

Shaath does not explicitly disclose "(a) creating a globally unique identifier (GUID), wherein said GUID comprises 128 binary bits created from a current time and date from said computer system and a unique machine identifier copied from an electronic circuit of said computer system. (b) converting said GIUD into a character string"

Samsung discloses a method for converting hexadecimal to (ASCII) a character string (Section 16, page 19).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings Shaath to convert the unique identifier from hexadecimal to a character string. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would provide a nonvolatile name that is easily understood for the removable storage (col 5, lines 2-4).

Shaath and Samsung do not explicitly disclose "c1) creating a globally unique identifier (GUID), wherein said GUID comprises 128 binary bits created from a current time and date from said computer system and a unique machine identifier copied from an electronic circuit of said computer system."

Kraig discloses a well known algorithm that creates a globally UUID, said GUID comprises 128 binary bits created from a current time and date from said computer system and a

unique machine identifier copied from an electronic circuit of said computer system (pg 14, lines 55-65; pg. 15, lines 1-5).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Shaath in view of Samsung such that the GUID is 128 binary bits created from a current time and date from said computer system and a unique machine identifier copied from an electronic circuit of said computer system. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would allow the system to create a unique id for the device (Kraig-pg 14, lines 50-60).

Referring to Claim 8:

Shaath and Samsung in view of Kraig disclose the limitations as discussed in Claim 7 above. Samsung further discloses converting each hexadecimal digit of said GUID into a single charter of said character string (Section 16-19).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to further modify the teachings of Shaath and Samsung in view of Kraig such that the system converts the hexadecimal digits to a character string. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would provide a character string identifier that a human user can understand.

Prior Art

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US 5613097 issued to Bates, Roger D. et al. Bates discloses method of automatic and user intuitive cataloging of removable media on a computer. The method does not require the user to launch an application to catalog because it operates within the existing system software and does not require a user to learn to operate a separate cataloging program. This applies to cataloging as well as searching entries. The method presents the data in the catalog in the same way that actual files on the computers hard disk or start up volume are presented. The method includes modifying and/or creating pointer files so that when activated it can remember where the original file is located, even when the file is on a volume that is not accessible to the computer when the pointer file is activated.

US 20020055942 issued to Reynolds, Mark L. Reynolds discloses the present invention provides tools and techniques for distinguishing a file from any or all copies of the file that may exist. One method ascertains (204) the actual physical location of the file (512) and associates (214) that physical location with the file as the claimed physical location (516) of the file. The file's originality status may then be determined (104) by finding (304) the location claim, reading (306) from it the claimed physical location associated with the file, ascertaining (308) the actual physical location of the file, and comparing (310) the locations. If the claimed and actual locations are identical, then the file is the original file it claims to be.

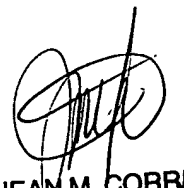
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Monplaisir G Hamilton whose telephone number is 1703-305-5116. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (8:00 am - 4:30 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E Breene can be reached on 1703-305-9790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 1703-305-3900.

Monplaisir Hamilton



JEAN M. CORRIELUS
PRIMARY EXAMINER